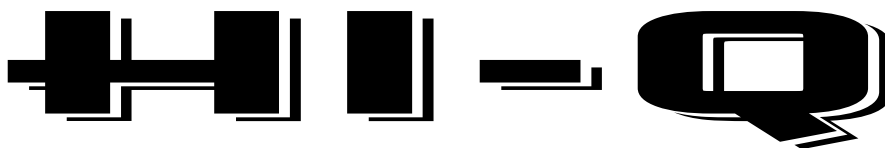




Journal of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club



Thunder Bay, Ontario



Volume 86

June 2020

Issue 06

Field Day 2020

The club executive met on Thursday 4 June via conference call. The main topic was Field Day and it was decided that it would not be appropriate to have a club field day this year. This does not mean you cannot operate in Field Day this year and the ARRL and RAC have changed rules this year to accommodate the operation of home stations. For an explanation of the changed rules please go to <https://www.rac.ca/field-day-2020-june-27-28/>

T-Shirts and Hats

As you know, the club has T-Shirts and hats on order and they too have been delayed by the pandemic. However, the manufacturer has notified Karl Hamilton VE3RRP that production has restarted and our order will be ready in the very near future. During the conference call, it was discussed how we can expedite delivery in the safest manner and we will update you as that progresses.

Online Certification Courses

via RAC

Amateur Radio Basic and Advanced Qualification online courses are being provided by Canadian Amateur Radio clubs and organizations and we will be posting any information we receive on our Amateur Radio Courses webpage at: <https://www.rac.ca/amateur-radio-courses/>.

If you know of an online course and would like to include it on our website please send the information to tcamag@yahoo.ca.

RAC will also be organizing another online Basic Amateur Radio Qualification Course tentatively scheduled to start in mid-August and run until early October. RAC will provide additional information about this course as soon as it becomes available.

A June Meeting (sort of)

During our conference call, it was decided to try and have a June meeting but with a twist. We are going to try and have it via the cloud based video conferencing app ZOOM. No doubt you have heard of it or even have used it for work meetings or education. We are still setting that up so look for follow up emails in the very near future. There are plenty of "how to" videos on Youtube if you want to get a preview on how it works. I have used other video platforms like Skype and the Facebook video chat so I am very curious to see how well it works.



2020 State of the Hobby Survey

Dustin N8RMA reports it's time for the fourth annual survey into the State of Amateur Radio

First and foremost, I hope everyone is staying healthy out there. The COVID-19 global pandemic has, for better or worse, certainly cause a large amount of change in the world today.

Last year saw a huge increase in participation and I hope to continue that trend in 2020.

Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey for this year and share with your radioactive peers. You can check out the survey link, along with previous results on my blog!

<https://www.radiosoth.org/2020/05/2020-state-of-hobby-survey.html>

Dustin N8RMA *via RAC*

LARC SENATE

Robert Hansen VE3RVA
Dave Kimpton VE3AVS
Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD
Terry Stewardson VA3LU
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

LARC EXECUTIVE

President: Randy Gottfred VA3OJ

VP: Bob Hansen VE3RVA

Treasurer: Karl Hamilton VE3RRP

Secretary: Karl Hamilton VE3RRP

Board Member: Ed Baumann VE3SNW

Board Member: Mark Vaillant VA3MVR

Board Member: Mike Skillen VE3EDX

**Board Member: John Plumridge
VE3FMT**

LARC Emergency Coordinator

Brad Harris VE3MXJ

ARES Amethyst District Emergency Coordinator

Warren Paulson, VE3FYN

CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631

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ABOUT US

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. . Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to hqnewsletter@gmail.com

Amethyst District ARES

Providing emergency communications for Northwestern Ontario

Emergency Coordinators

Atikokan: Warren Paulson, VE3FYN (ARES DEC, Amethyst District)

Sioux Narrows: Woody Linton, VE3JJA

Fort Frances: Rod Davis, VE3RYD (ARES EC, Fort Frances & area)

Kenora: Chris Bigelow, VA3ECO (ARES EC, Kenora & area)

Dryden: Bob Ernewein, VE3YDN

Thunder Bay: Brad Harris, VE3MXJ (ARES EC, Thunder Bay & area)

Nets and Exercises

We conduct an open weekly HF net on 80 and 40 metres. The purpose of this net is to monitor regional propagation conditions, share information, and practice net procedures.

Time: Wednesdays at 21:30 UTC (4:30 pm EST, 3:30 pm CST)

Frequency: Primary 3.675 MHz LSB, Secondary 7.135 MHz LSB

<http://www.ve3rib.ca/nwoares>

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT (Mount Baldy) 147.060 (-600)

VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 146.820 pl 107.2

VE3BGA (Loch Lomond) 147.390, PL Tone 107

442.075 (+5 MHz) pl 100

144.390 APRS

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

May 2020 Treasurers Report

Opening Balance May 1, 2020 **\$3,785.66**

Income

Total Income **\$0.00**

Expenses

Total Expenses **\$0.00**

Closing Balance May 31, 2020 **\$3,785.66**

<u>Trailer Account</u>		
	Previous Balance	1228.46
<u>Income</u>		
Interest		\$0.00
Total		\$1,228.46
<u>Expenses</u>		
Total Expenses:		\$0.00
	Balance in Trailer Account	\$1,228.46

Term Account

Opening Balance May 01, 2020 **\$2,070.79**

Interest **\$0.34**

Closing Balance May 31, 2020 **\$2,071.13**

Karl Hamilton VE3RRP
Treasurer



Amateur Radio Gearing Up for Predicted “Above Average” Atlantic Hurricane Season

Extended-range forecasts for the 2020 Atlantic Basin hurricane season anticipate above-normal activity, although a low-pressure system now off the coast of Florida could get a jump on things and develop into a subtropical depression or storm this weekend. The Atlantic hurricane season doesn't start until June 1 and extends until November 30. The National Hurricane Center (NHC) 2020 outlook calls for a season about 140% more active than average, with four Category 3 to Category 5 hurricanes. The 2019 season saw three major hurricanes (out of six).

The NHC Annual Station Test — to check readiness of amateur radio stations and operators — takes place on Saturday, May 30, 1300 – 2100 UTC. The NHC's WX4NHC will be on the air, marking its 40th year of public service at the NHC. “We will be making brief contacts on many frequencies and modes, exchanging signal reports and basic weather data — sunny, rain, temperature, etc.) with any station in any location,” Operation will be on HF, VHF, UHF, APRS, and Winlink. WX4NHC will center its activity on the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) frequencies of 14.325 MHz and 7.268 MHz, depending on propagation, but will operate elsewhere as conditions dictate. WX4NHC will also operate on the VoIP Hurricane Net from 2000 until 2100 UTC. -- arrl news

YOTA (Youth on the Air) postpones summer camps to 2021

•The 10th edition of the Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) Summer Camp, which was to have been hosted by the Croatian Amateur Radio Association (HRS) August 8 - 15, has been called off for this year, but will take place in 2021 at the same location. Also put off until next summer is the first Youth On The Air in the Americas Summer Camp, which had been set for June 21 - 26 in Ohio.



New Beta of FT4 and FT8 software WSJT

Joe Taylor K1JT reports the new beta version of the popular FT4 and FT8 software, WSJT-X version 2.2.0, is a significant program upgrade offering many new features.

A list of program changes since WSJT-X 2.1.2 can be found in the cumulative Release Notes http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/Release_Notes.txt

Links to installation packages for Windows, Linux, and Macintosh are available here: <http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjsx.html>

Scroll down to find "Candidate release: WSJT-X 2.2.0-rc1".

If you find bugs or make improvements to the code, please report them to developers in a timely fashion.

We hope you will enjoy using this beta release of WSJT-X 2.2.0.

73 from Joe, K1JT, Steve, K9AN, and Bill, G4WJS, for the WSJT

Development Group

via RAC

Australia moves closer to getting WRC-15 60m (5 MHz) band

via RAC

The ACMA is currently seeking feedback on amateur access to the 5 MHz band in Australia. This is excellent news from ACMA given the amount of hams globally who will be chasing Australia for confirmation on 60m but with 15W EIRP, the DX will still be challenging.

It is also an excellent band choice for general low power experimentation with even new digital modes like WSPR, FT8 etc and for inter continental communications around Australia and our close neighbours when 80m and 40m may be unsuitable that 60m is the better solution, especially for outback and remote emergency communications.

Read the WIA story - Is 60m Within Our Grasp?

<https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2020/20200514-1/index.php>

RAC is considering offering more online Amateur Radio courses

Survey being conducted to determine demand: Ends June 21

<https://www.rac.ca/survey-online-advanced-course/>

In response to the current global pandemic, Radio Amateurs of Canada organized an online Advanced Amateur Radio Certification Course in March 2020 so that individuals could upgrade their qualifications while continuing to practise social/physical distancing.

The new course was offered to RAC Maple Leaf Operator Members – both current and future – as described in the course requirements below. The course filled up very quickly and it is now nearing completion. Several students took the exam early and have earned their Advanced certificates. Thanks again for the excellent response!

We have received requests to hold another online Advanced course so we are conducting a survey to see if we have sufficient demand to hold the course and to determine the best schedule for the participants.

RAC will also be organizing another online Basic Amateur Radio Qualification Course tentatively scheduled to start in mid-August and run until early October. We will provide additional information about this course as soon as it becomes available.

Amateur Radio Basic and Advanced Qualification online courses are also being provided by other Canadian Amateur Radio clubs and organizations and we will be posting any information we receive on our Amateur Radio Courses webpage at: <https://www.rac.ca/amateur-radio-courses/>. If you know of an online course and would like to include it on our website please send the information to tcamag@yahoo.ca.

Advanced Course Requirements:

Participants in the new RAC Advanced Amateur Radio Course will need to meet all of the following requirements:

Participants must already be a RAC Maple Leaf Operator Member or become one by joining RAC at the Maple Leaf Operator level or upgrading to that level.

Participants must already have the Canadian Basic Amateur Radio Qualification and call sign.

Participants must have a copy of the Canadian Amateur Radio Advanced Qualification Study Guide

provided by Coax Publications. For more information please visit the RAC Study Guides webpage.

It is essential that all participants have the necessary equipment and bandwidth capable of taking the course – at least a tablet or PC and a DSL broadband connection.

Course Information:

The course instructor is Dave Goodwin, VE9CB. Dave has been an Amateur since 1975, is an active HF Con-tester and DXer and has many other interests in Amateur Radio. Since 2015, Dave has been teaching Basic and Advanced certification courses with the Fredericton (NB) Amateur Radio Club. Dave is also RAC's Atlantic Director.

The course will be 10 sessions in length. Each session will be two hours long as indicated by the following options:

Option 1: One two-hour class per week on Sunday afternoons from 3 pm to 5 pm EDT (12 noon to 2 pm PDT) starting on July 5 and ending on August 30

Option 2: One two-hour class per week on Monday evenings from 8:30 pm to 10:30 pm EDT (5:30 pm to 7:30 pm PDT) starting on July 6 and ending on August 31

Option 3: Two two-hour classes per week on Sunday afternoons from 3 pm to 5 pm EDT (12 noon to 2 pm PDT) and on Thursday evenings from 8:30 pm to 10:30 pm (5:30 pm to 7:30 pm PDT) pm EDT starting July 5 and ending on August 6

Note: Options 1 and 2 involve once-a-week sessions for 10 weeks and Option 3 involves twice-a-week sessions for 5 weeks.

If you are interested in taking the new RAC Advanced Qualification Amateur Radio Course we would appreciate it if you would please complete the online survey as soon as possible by clicking on the link below. The survey will close on Sunday, June 21.

Survey page: <https://www.rac.ca/amateur-radio-courses/survey/>

Once we have compiled the survey results we will make a decision about the status and schedule of the new course and then send out a RAC bulletin to inform you.

If you do not currently receive RAC Bulletins by email and you would like to receive them, please sign up to our mailing list by completing the form at the following link:

<https://www.rac.ca/rac-notifications/>

June 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5 Full Moon	6	7
8	9	10	11 Club ZOOM video meeting	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 Summer Starts 5:43 pm EDT	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Field Day	28
29	30					